



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI 2008-121

Monday, August 25, 2008

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Burmaster awards \$4.3 million in federal charter school grants

Funding includes support for 35 existing charter schools and four planning grants for new charter schools

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster announced \$4.3 million in federal funding to support charter school grants for planning, implementation, and dissemination activities for the start of the 2008-09 school year.

“Charter schools are one option our school districts have to ensure a quality education for every child, raise achievement for all students, and close the achievement gap between economically disadvantaged students, students of color, and their peers,” said Burmaster. “We continue to support grants for charter schools in Wisconsin that provide programming to help students become world ready and achieve more.”

In 2005, Wisconsin received a \$52 million federal competitive grant to expand the number of charter schools in the state and nation. This round of grants from that funding provides resources for:

- 4 planning grants, totaling \$200,000, to help plan new charter schools;
- 5 implementation grants, totaling \$625,000, for first-year operations of new charter schools;
- 27 implementation renewal grants, totaling \$3,175,000, for charter schools in the second year of operation;
- 1 dissemination grant, totaling \$115,000, and 2 dissemination renewal grants totaling \$190,000, to enable established charter schools to share best practices with other charter schools.

Total grant awards for the start of the 2008-09 year are \$4,305,000. Recipients may be eligible for supplemental funding later this year.

Charter schools are public schools that are accountable to their authorizing agency for performance measures included in the charter contract. Charter schools must employ licensed teachers,

(more)

involve parents, administer statewide tests, and comply with federal regulations that govern all public schools. Under state law, school districts can authorize an unlimited number of charter schools. In addition, the City of Milwaukee, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, also have authority to charter schools. There are currently 226 charter schools in Wisconsin.

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NOTE: A list of charter grants follows. This news release is available electronically at http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2008_121.pdf.

Charter School Grants

2008-09 Fiscal Year

June 2008 Applications

Planning Awards (4)

Birchwood School District

Blue Hills Charter School, \$50,000

Black River Falls School District

Black River Area Green School, \$50,000

Marshfield School District

Marshfield Core Advantage Charter School, \$50,000

Sheboygan Area School District

*Pigeon River Environmental Education
Elementary, \$50,000*

Implementation Awards — Initial (5)

Milwaukee Public Schools

*Audubon Technology and Communication Center
High School, \$125,000*

Milwaukee Business High School, \$125,000

*WORK (Where Opportunities Require Knowledge)
Institute, \$125,000*

Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools

Mead Elementary School, \$125,000

Vesper Elementary Charter School, \$125,000

Implementation Renewal Awards (27)

Appleton Area School District

Kaleidoscope Academy, \$125,000

Barron Area School District

Barron Area Montessori School, \$100,000

Beloit School District

Eclipse Center Charter School, \$125,000

Butternut School District

Promethean Charter School, \$125,000

Columbus School District

Discovery Charter School, \$100,000

Glidden School District

Glidden Class ACT Charter School, \$125,000

Janesville School District

TAGOS Leadership Academy, \$125,000

Kenosha Unified School District

School of Technology Enhanced Curriculum, \$125,000

Ladysmith-Hawkins School District

Health Care Academy, \$100,000

Mellen School District

Mellen Technology Charter School, \$125,000

Mercer School District

Mercer Environmental Tourism, \$125,000

Milwaukee Public Schools

Carmen High School of Science and Technology, \$125,000

Marshall Montessori IB Charter School, \$125,000

Milwaukee Academy of Chinese Language, \$125,000

Oconto Falls School District

New Path Charter School, \$100,000

Oconto Unified School District

Oconto Literacy Charter School, \$125,000

Oshkosh Area School District

Franklin Key to Learning Charter School, \$125,000

*Jacob Shapiro Brain Based Instruction Laboratory
School, \$125,000*

Rhineland School District

*Rhineland Environmental Stewardship
Academy, \$100,000*

Sheboygan Area School District

A2 Charter School, \$100,000

Lake Country Academy, \$125,000

Northeast Wisconsin Montessori School, \$100,000

The Etude School, \$125,000

UW-Milwaukee

Seeds of Health Elementary School, \$125,000

Wauwatosa School District

Tosa School of Health Science and Technology, \$125,000

West De Pere School District

Phantom Knight School of Opportunity, \$100,000

Winter School District

Pathways, \$125,000

Dissemination Award (1)

Stevens Point Area School District

Roosevelt IDEA School \$115,000

Dissemination Renewal Awards (2)

Appleton Area School District

TESLA Engineering \$115,000

Milwaukee Public Schools

Humboldt Park K-8 School \$75,000